

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of the claims in this application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A communication network comprising a user equipment, an access network and a plurality of core networks, wherein said communication network ~~comprising~~ is arranged to:

~~means for communicating~~ communicate separate ciphering parameters to said access network from said at least two of said core networks; and

~~means for selecting~~ select one of said separate ciphering parameters and ~~using~~ use the selected ciphering parameter for ciphering at least both a communication between said user equipment and a first core network of said plurality of core networks and a communication between said user equipment and a second core network of said plurality of core networks,

wherein said user equipment is configured to be simultaneously in communication with at least two of said plurality of core networks.

2. (Currently Amended) A communication network according to claim 1, further ~~comprising~~ arranged to

~~means for ciphering~~ cipher said communications between said user equipment and said at least two of said plurality of core networks with said selected one of said separate ciphering parameters.

3. (Previously Presented) A communication network according to claim 1 wherein said ciphering parameter comprises at least one of a ciphering key or a ciphering algorithm.

4. (Currently Amended) A method ~~of ciphering in a communication network~~ comprising: a user equipment, an access network and a plurality of core networks, wherein

~~said user equipment is configured to be simultaneously in communication with at least two of said plurality of core networks, said method comprising:~~

~~communicating receiving at an access network~~ separate ciphering parameters ~~to said access network~~ from said at least a first core network and a second core network of a two of said plurality of core networks; and

selecting one of said separate ciphering parameters and using the selected ciphering parameter for ciphering at least both a communication between ~~said~~ a user equipment and a said first core network of said plurality of core networks via said access network and a simultaneous communication between said user equipment and a said second core network of said plurality of core networks via said access network.

5. (Currently Amended) A method ~~of ciphering~~ according to claim 4 further comprising ciphering said communications between said user equipment and said at least two of said plurality of core networks with said selected one of said separate ciphering parameters.

6. (Currently Amended) A method ~~of ciphering~~ according to claim 4, wherein said ciphering parameter comprises at least one of a ciphering key or a ciphering algorithm.

7. (Currently Amended) A method ~~of ciphering~~ according to claim 4, wherein said access network comprises a plurality of entities dedicated for managing the ciphering of communications with user equipments located in a geographical area allocated to said respective entities,

and that when said user equipment moves from a geographical area allocated to a first ciphering managing entity to a geographical area allocated to a second ciphering managing entity, said first ciphering managing entity communicates used ciphering parameters to said second ciphering managing entity by signaling over said at least two of said plurality of core networks.

8. (Currently Amended) An access network ~~connected to a plurality of core networks, and to a user equipment, wherein said user equipment is configured to be simultaneously in~~

~~communication with at least two of said plurality of core networks over said access network,~~
~~said access network comprising~~ which is arranged to:

~~means for receiving~~ receive separate ciphering parameters from at least two of a
plurality of said core networks; and

~~means for selecting~~ select one of said separate ciphering parameters and using
use the selected ciphering parameter for ciphering at least both a communication between said
a user equipment and a first core network of said plurality of core networks via said access
network and a simultaneous communication between said user equipment and a second core
network of said plurality of core networks via said access network.

9. (Currently Amended) A device ~~for an access network connected to a plurality of core~~
~~networks and to a user equipment configured to be simultaneously in communication with at~~
~~least two of said plurality of core networks over said access network,~~ said device comprising
which is arranged to:

~~means for receiving~~ receive separate ciphering parameters from said at least two
of a plurality of core networks; and

~~means for selecting~~ select one of said separate ciphering parameters and using
use the selected ciphering parameter for ciphering at least both a communication between said
a user equipment and a first core network of said plurality of core networks via an access
network and a simultaneous communication between said user equipment and a second core
network of said plurality of core networks via said access network, wherein said device is one
of an access network element and a ciphering controller.

10. (Currently Amended) A device according to claim 9, further ~~comprising~~ arranged to:
~~means for ciphering~~ cipher said communications between said user equipment and said at
least two of said plurality of core networks with said selected one of said separate ciphering
parameters.

11. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 10, wherein said communications
are signaling messages.

12. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 10, wherein said communications comprise signaling messages and user data.

13. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 9, wherein said ciphering parameter comprises at least one of a ciphering key or a ciphering algorithm.

14. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 9, further comprising a radio network controller in the access network element.

Claims 15-19 (canceled)

20. (Previously Presented) A communication network according to claim 2, wherein said communications are signaling messages.

21. (Previously Presented) A communication network according to claim 2, wherein said communications comprise signaling messages and user data.

22. (Previously Presented) A method of ciphering according to claim 5, wherein said communications are signaling messages.

23. (Previously Presented) A method of ciphering according to claim 5, wherein said communications comprise signaling messages and user data.